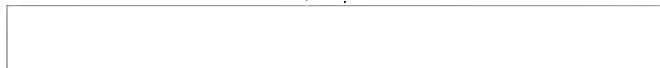




CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

THE PRESIDENT'S DAILY BRIEF



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17 APRIL 1965

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DAILY BRIEF
17 APRIL 1965

1. Vietnam

The follow-up ground operation to the 15 April air strike on the Viet Cong base in Tay Ninh Province has not met Viet Cong resistance. In advances thus far, the site of a Viet Cong communications training center has been found.

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According to the press, North Vietnamese Premier Pham Van Dong said in Djakarta today that if North Vietnamese conditions "were accepted," including US withdrawal from South Vietnam, "it might be possible to hold an international conference." There are press reports, but no confirmation, that North Vietnamese party secretary Le Duan is in Moscow for "non-official" talks.

There has been no new information on significant Chinese Communist or North Vietnamese military moves. No reports of new major Viet Cong - initiated military actions have come in.

2. Dominican Republic

The Dominican army chief of staff says that the government is tracking down a coup plot planned for 18 April, aiming at the return of Juan Bosch as president.

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No hard information to support or deny this is available.

3. South Korea

As the student demonstrations gain in intensity, opposition leader Yon Po-son has made it clear he hopes to use the agitation to topple the government. If he persists, the demonstrations could take even a more violent turn. The government hopes to avoid martial law, but is prepared to declare it.

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4. USSR

The Soviets launched the fourth photo-reconnaissance satellite (dubbed by them Cosmos 65) in this year's series. It is carrying a high-resolution camera system.

The Soviets appear to be on their way to intensifying their reconnaissance program this year. During 1964 they launched 12 photo satellites--all between April and October--with three carrying high-resolution systems. So far this year they have put up four, two of which have carried the high-resolution system.

This apparent intensification parallels another Soviet program for gathering intelligence through technical means--the Sigint monitoring vessels. The Soviets appear now to be maintaining their vessels continuously on station in eight areas, including three in the vicinity of US Polaris bases.

[REDACTED] the deployment of Soviet instrumentation ships has led us to expect yet another space venture soon.

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5. UAR

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Cairo recently announced that a delegation of Egyptian atomic scientists had gone to Peiping. If the UAR and China have agreed to work together in these fields, additional evidence should be available in the near future.

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